

Message Text

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ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 IO-13 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-10 CIAE-00

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-08 NRC-07 DODE-00

PA-02 PRS-01 USIA-15 /088 W

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FM USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8862

INFO USERDA HQ WASHDC

USERDA HQ GERMANTOWN

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

UNCLAS IAEA VIENNA 2437

DEPT PASS IO/SCT

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: IAEA, PARM, TECH

SUBJ: US-JAPANESE NUCLEAR POLICIES

1. MISSION HAS RECEIVED INFORMAL TRANSLATION BY IAEA SECRETARIAT OF TWO JAPANESE PRESS RELEASES ON SUBJECT OF US-JAPANESE DISCUSSIONS OF NUCLEAR POLICY. THOUGH THESE PRESS RELEASES PRE-DATE PRIME MINISTER FUKUDA VISIT AT WHICH THIS SUBJECT WAS DISCUSSED, DEPARTMENT MAY BE INTERESTED IN FOLLOWING EXCERPTS.

2. IN PRESS RELEASE DATED FEBRUARY 26, 1977, DR. GORO INOUE, DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF JAPANESE ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION, WAS QUOTED IN TRANSLATION AS HAVING EXPLAINED JAPANESE VIEWS AS FOLLOWS TO SEVERAL HIGH US OFFICIALS IN WHITE HOUSE, NRC AND ERDA. QUOTE:

A. JAPAN HAS SUCH A NUCLEAR CONDITION THAT IT MUST DEPEND ON ATOMIC ENERGY.

B. JAPAN HAS A NON-PROLIFERATION POLICY, UNDER UNCLASSIFIED

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THE NPT, RATIFIED BY JAPAN LAST YEAR, UTILIZATION OF PEACEFUL USES OF ATOMIC ENERGY IS GUARANTEED.

C. AS JAPAN HAS NO ENERGY RESOURCES INLAND, IT IS INDISPENSABLE TO RECOVER PLUTONIUM THROUGH REPROCESSING. WE CANNOT WAIT FOR THREE YEARS.

D. THE MAIN POINT OF THE LONG-TERM ENERGY POLICY SHOULD BE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NUCLEAR FUEL CYCLE. AS THE FIRST STEP OF THIS POLICY, WE NEED THE UNDERSTANDING AND COOPERATION OF THE US IN ORDER THAT WE CAN OPERATE OUR FIRST PNC REPROCESSING PLANT ON SCHEDULE. END QUOTE.

3. THE SAME FEBRUARY 26 PRESS RELEASE STATES IN TRANSLATION THAT, QUOTE AN UNOFFICIAL PROPOSAL WAS OFFERED FROM THE US SIDE AS TO THE INTERNATIONAL CONTROL STRUCTURE OF THE SPENT FUEL STORAGE WHICH WILL BE TRANSFERRED TO THE OFFICIAL BASE TALKS BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES IN THE NEAR FUTURE. END QUOTE.

4. THE FOLLOWING IS QUOTED FROM TRANSLATION OF A JAPANESE PRESS RELEASE DATED FEBRUARY 24, 1977.

QUOTE: ON 23 FEBRUARY, AT A REPLY IN THE DIET, PRIME MINISTER FUKUDA SUGGESTED THE POSSIBILITY TO ALIGN WITH THE US PROPOSAL THAT ANY SURPLUS PLUTONIUM OF EVERY MEMBER STATE WOULD BE STORED IN IAEA'S DEPOTS. THE PRIME MINISTER AGREED WITH THE OPINION THAT JAPAN SHOULD PERSUADE THE US, STRESSING THAT REPROCESSING AND PLUTONIUM UTILIZATION HAVE ECONOMICAL MERITS AND HE ANSWERED AS TO THE IAEA'S PU DEPOTS THAT THERE WAS A POSSIBILITY BUT IT WAS WHOLLY UP TO THE PROGRESS OF THE MEETING HE WOULD HAVE WITH PRESIDENT CARTER. END QUOTE. LABOWITZ

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